

**Bid Number: 06-X-37886** 

# **NOTICE OF AWARD FOR:**

# CHEMICALS & INSECTICIDES FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL

Date Issued: 06/06/05

Purchasing Agency
State of New Jersey
Department of the Treasury
Division of Purchase and Property
Purchase Bureau, PO Box 230
33 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0230

<u>Using Agency</u> State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Members

# **Table of Contents**

1.0 INFORMATION FOR BIDDERS	4
1.1 PURPOSE AND INTENT	
1.2 BACKGROUND	4
1.3 KEY EVENTS	
1.3.1 ELECTRONIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD	
1.3.1.1 QUESTION PROTOCOL	۷ ک
1.3.1.2 CUT-OFF DATE FOR QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES	
1.3.2 MANDATORY SITE VISIT	
1.3.4 OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE:	Ç
1.3.5 SUBMISSION OF BID PROPOSAL	
1.3.6 DOCUMENT REVIEW	<u>5</u>
1.4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
1.4.1 REVISIONS TO THIS RFP	
1.4.2 ADDENDUM AS A PART OF THIS RFP	
1.4.3 ISSUING OFFICE	
1.4.5 COST LIABILITY	
1.4.6 CONTENTS OF BID PROPOSAL	
1.4.7 PRICE ALTERATION	
1.4.8 JOINT VENTURE	
2.0 DEFINITIONS	-
2.1 GENERAL DEFINITIONS	
3.0 COMMODITY DESCRIPTION/SCOPE OF WORK	8
3.3 PRODUCT REGISTRATION WITH N.J.D.E.P.	8
3.4 PACKAGING	
3.5 DELIVERY	9
3.6 BILLING	
3.7 SALES SERVICE	
3.8 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
4.0 PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION	
4.1 GENERAL	10
4.2 PROPOSAL DELIVERY AND IDENTIFICATION	10
4.3 NUMBER OF BID PROPOSAL COPIES	
4.4 PROPOSAL CONTENT	
4.4.1 FORMS	
4.4.1.1 OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE FORM	
4.4.1.3 AFFIRMATIVE ACTION	
4.4.1.4 BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE FROM THE DIVISION OF REVENUE	
4.4.1.5 EXECUTIVE ORDER 134	
4.4.1.6 SET-ASIDE CONTRACTS	11
4.4.1.7 EXECUTIVE ORDER 129	
4.4.1.8 BID BOND	
4.4.2 SUBMITTALS	
4.4.2.1 DISCLOSURE OF PRODUCT COMPOSITION	
4.4.2.3 REFERENCE DATA SHEET	
4.4.2.4 MANDATORY CONTRACTOR DATA SHEET - TERMINATED CONTRACTS	
4.4.2.5 SAMPLES/SAMPLE TESTING	14
4.4.2.6 FINANCIAL CAPABILITY OF THE BIDDER	14
4.4.2.7 SUBCONTRACTOR(S)	14

4.4.2.8 DISCLOSURE OF INVESTIGATIONS/ACTIONS INVOLVING BIDDER	
4.4.3 COST PROPOSAL	15
4.4.4 PRICE SHEETING INSTRUCTION	15
5.0 SPECIAL CONTRACTUAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS	16
5.1 STATE CONTRACT MANAGER	
5.2 PRECEDENCE OF SPECIAL CONTRACTUAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS	
5.3 BUSINESS REGISTRATION	
5.4 CONTRACT TERM AND EXTENSION OPTION	
5.5 CONTRACT TRANSITION	
5.6 AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS	
5.7 CONTRACT AMENDMENT	
5.8 PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS AND AMENDMENTS	
5.9 ITEMS ORDERED AND DELIVERED	
5.10 DISCLOSURE OF PRODUCT COMPOSITION	
5.11 REMEDIES FOR NON-PERFORMANCE	
5.12 MANUFACTURING/PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS	
5.13 PERFORMANCE BOND	
5.14 CLAIMS	
5.15 CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES	
5.16 SUBSTITUTION OR ADDITION OF SUBCONTRACTOR(S)	
5.17 CONTRACT ACTIVITY REPORT	
5.18 REQUIREMENTS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 134	
5.18.1 DEFINITIONS	
5.18.2 BREACH OF TERMS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 134	20
5.18.3 CERTIFICATION AND DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS	20
5.18.4 STATE TREASURER REVIEW	
5.19 REQUIREMENTS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 129	
6.0 PROPOSAL EVALUATION/CONTRACT AWARD	22
6.1 CONTRACT EVALUATION	22
6.2 ORAL PRESENTATION AND/OR CLARIFICATION OF BID PROPOSAL	
6.3 BID DISCREPANCIES	
6.4 NEGOTIATION AND BEST AND FINAL OFFER (BAFO)	22
6.5 CONTRACT AWARD	
7.0 ATTACHMENTS, SUPPLEMENTS AND APPENDICES	ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED
ATTACHMENT 1 - OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE FORM	EDDODI DOOVMADY NOT DEEINED
ATTACHMENT 1 - OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE FORM	
ATTACHMENT TA - DISCLOSURE OF INVESTIGATIONS AND ACTIONS INVOLVING BIDDER ATTACHMENT 2 - MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES FORM	
ATTACHMENT 2 - MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES FORM	
ATTACHMENT 3 - AFFIRMATIVE ACTION SUPPLEMENT	
ATTACHMENT 4 - COOPERATIVE PORCHASING FORM	
ADDENDIV 1 NECTATE CTANDADD TEDMS AND CONDITIONS	

# 1.0 INFORMATION FOR BIDDERS

## 1.1 PURPOSE AND INTENT

This Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued by the Purchase Bureau, Division of Purchase and Property, Department of the Treasury on behalf of Department of Environmental Protection. The purpose of this RFP is to solicit bid proposals for the supply and delivery of Chemicals and Insecticides for Mosquito Control (DEP and Various Using Agencies).

The intent of this RFP is to award contracts to those responsible bidders whose bid proposals, conforming to this RFP are most advantageous to the State, price and other factors considered.

The Standard Terms & Conditions, <u>Appendix 1</u> of this RFP, will apply to all contracts or purchase agreements made with the State of New Jersey. These terms are in addition to the terms and conditions set forth in this RFP and should be read in conjunction with same unless the RFP specifically indicates otherwise.

The State intends to extend the contract[s] awarded to the Purchase Bureau's cooperative purchasing partners. These partners include quasi-state agencies, counties, municipalities, school districts, volunteer fire departments, first aid squads, independent institutions of higher learning, County colleges and State colleges.

Although the State, with the assent of the vendor(s), is making the use of any contract resulting from this RFP available to non-State Agencies, the State makes no representation as to the acceptability of any State RFP terms and conditions under the Local Public Contracts Law or any other enabling statute or regulation.

# 1.2 BACKGROUND

This is a reprocurement of the Chemicals and Insecticides for Mosquito Control term contract, presently due to expire on **August 14, 2005.** Vendors who are interested in the current contract specifications and pricing information are encouraged to visit the Purchase Bureau's website on the world wide web. The applicable "T" reference number for this lookup is **T-0153.** The exact WWW address is: <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/contracts.htm">http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/contracts.htm</a>

# 1.3 KEY EVENTS

## 1.3.1 ELECTRONIC QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

It is the policy of the Purchase Bureau to accept questions and inquiries from all vendors by e-mail. Written questions should be e-mailed to the Purchase Bureau to the attention of the assigned Purchase Bureau buyer at the following address:

# E- Mail: marco.valdivia@treas.state.nj.us

After the submission of bid proposals, unless requested by the State, contact with the State is limited to status inquiries only and such inquiries are only to be directed to the buyer. Any further contact or information about the proposal to the buyer or any other State official connected with the solicitation will be considered an impermissible supplementation of the bidder's bid proposal.

## 1.3.1.1 QUESTION PROTOCOL

Questions should be e-mailed in writing to the attention of the assigned Purchase Bureau buyer. Questions should be directly tied to the RFP by the writer. Questions should be asked in consecutive order, from beginning to end, following the organization of the RFP. Each question should begin by referencing the RFP page number and section number to which it relates.

## 1.3.1.2 CUT-OFF DATE FOR QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES

The cut-off date for questions and inquiries relating to this RFP is **two (2) weeks prior to the bid opening date.** Addenda, if any, to this RFP will be posted to the Purchase Bureau website (see Section 1.4.1. of this RFP for further information.)

#### 1.3.2 MANDATORY SITE VISIT

Reserved

## 1.3.3 MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE

Reserved

## 1.3.4 OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE:

Reserved

#### 1.3.5 SUBMISSION OF BID PROPOSAL

In order to be considered for award, the bid proposal must be received by the Purchase Bureau of the Division of Purchase and Property at the appropriate location by the required time. <u>ANY BID PROPOSAL NOT RECEIVED ON TIME AT THE RIGHT PLACE WILL BE REJECTED. THE DATE, TIME AND LOCATION ARE:</u>

DATE:	JUNE 30, 2005
TIME:	2PM
LOCATION:	
	BID RECEIVING ROOM - 9TH FLOOR PURCHASE BUREAU DIVISION OF PURCHASE AND PROPERTY DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY 33 WEST STATE STREET, P.O. BOX 230 TRENTON, NJ 08625-0230
	Directions to the Purchase Bureau can be found on the following website: http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/directions.shtml

#### 1.3.6 DOCUMENT REVIEW

Not applicable to this procurement

## 1.4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## 1.4.1 REVISIONS TO THIS RFP

In the event that it becomes necessary to clarify or revise this RFP, such clarification or revision will be by addendum.

ALL RFP ADDENDA WILL BE ISSUED ON THE PURCHASE BUREAU WEB SITE. TO ACCESS ADDENDA THE BIDDER MUST SELECT THE BID NUMBER ON THE PURCHASE BUREAU BIDDING OPPORTUNITIES WEB PAGE AT THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

HTTP://WWW.STATE.NJ.US/TREASURY/PURCHASE/BID/SUMMARY/BID.SHTML.

There are no designated dates for release of addenda. Therefore interested bidders should check the Purchase Bureau "Bidding Opportunities" website on a daily basis from time of RFP issuance through bid opening.

It is the sole responsibility of the bidder to be knowledgeable of all addenda related to this procurement.

#### 1.4.2 ADDENDUM AS A PART OF THIS RFP

Any addendum to this RFP shall become part of this RFP and part of any contract awarded as a result of this RFP.

## 1.4.3 ISSUING OFFICE

This RFP is issued by the Purchase Bureau, Division of Purchase and Property. The buyer noted in Section 1.3.1 is the sole point of contact between the vendor and the State for purposes of this RFP.

## 1.4.4 BIDDER RESPONSIBILITY

The bidder assumes sole responsibility for the complete effort required in submitting a bid proposal in response to this RFP. No special consideration will be given after bid proposals are opened because of a bidder's failure to be knowledgeable as to all of the requirements of this RFP. By submitting a bid proposal in response to this RFP, the bidder represents that it has satisfied itself, from its own investigation, as to all of the requirements of this RFP.

## 1.4.5 COST LIABILITY

The State assumes no responsibility and bears no liability for costs incurred by a bidder in the preparation and submittal of a bid proposal in response to this RFP.

#### 1.4.6 CONTENTS OF BID PROPOSAL

Subsequent to bid opening, all information submitted by bidders in response to the bid solicitation is considered public information, except as may be exempted from public disclosure by the Open Public Records Act, N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq., and the common law. A bidder may designate specific information as not subject to disclosure when the bidder has a good faith legal/factual basis for such assertion. The State reserves the right to make the determination and shall so advise the bidder. The State will not honor attempts by bidders either to designate their entire bid proposal as proprietary and/or to claim copyright protection for their entire proposal.

All bid proposals, with the exception of information determined by the Director to be proprietary, are available for public inspection.

Interested parties can make an appointment with the Purchase Bureau to inspect bid proposals received in response to this RFP.

# 1.4.7 PRICE ALTERATION

Bid prices must be typed or written in ink. Any price change (including "white-outs") must be initialed. Failure to initial price changes shall preclude a contract award being made to the bidder.

# 1.4.8 JOINT VENTURE

If a joint venture is submitting a bid proposal, the agreement between the parties relating to such joint venture should be submitted with the joint venture's bid proposal. Authorized signatories from each party comprising the joint venture must sign the bid proposal. A separate Ownership Disclosure Form, Affirmative Action Employee Information Report, MacBride Principles Certification and business registration must be supplied by each party to the joint venture.

# 2.0 DEFINITIONS

#### 2.1 GENERAL DEFINITIONS

The following definitions shall be part of any contract awarded or order placed as result of this RFP.

Addendum - Written clarification or revision to this RFP issued by the Purchase Bureau.

**Amendment** - A change in the scope of work to be performed by the contractor. An amendment is not effective until signed by the Director, Division of Purchase and Property.

**Bidder** – A vendor submitting a bid proposal in response to this RFP.

**Contract** - This RFP, any addendum to this RFP, the bidder's bid proposal submitted in response to this RFP and the Division's Notice of Acceptance.

**Contractor** - The contractor is the bidder awarded a contract.

**Director** - Director, Division of Purchase and Property, Department of the Treasury. By statutory authority, the Director is the chief contracting officer for the State of New Jersey.

**Division** - The Division of Purchase and Property.

May - Denotes that which is permissible, but not mandatory.

**Request for Proposal (RFP)** - This document, which establishes the bidding and contract requirements and solicits bid proposals to meet the purchase needs of [the] Using Agency[ies], as identified herein.

**Shall or Must** - Denotes that which is a mandatory requirement. Failure to meet a mandatory requirement will result in the rejection of a bid proposal, as materially non-responsive.

**Should** - Denotes that which is recommended, but not mandatory.

State - State of New Jersey

**Using Agency[ies]**- The entity[ies] for which the Division has issued this RFP.

# 3.0 COMMODITY DESCRIPTION/SCOPE OF WORK

3.1

All materials supplied must meet the requirements of this RFP and must be formulated for the control of mosquitoes. This is to be stated on the labels submitted with the bid proposal.

3.2

The State reserves the right to inspect all materials before and/or after delivery and the right to return any material(s) not meeting the requirement of this RFP, at no cost to the State.

#### 3.3 PRODUCT REGISTRATION WITH N.J.D.E.P.

- 3.3.1 In accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:30-1.3(A), any pesticide product submitted as a part of this RFP must be currently registered with the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Pesticide Control Program P.O. Box 411, Trenton NJ 08625.
- 3.3.2 Failure to provide a copy of the N.J.D.E.P. Registration form, with this RFP or within five (5) days upon either verbal or written request by the State, for any item bid or for any item which requires N.J.D.E.P. Registration will result in the rejection of your bid proposal for that item only.
- 3.3.3 Use of some of the products specified in this RFP requires compliance with N.J. Pesticide Control Regulations, Title 7, Chapter 30. This may include adherence to "Guidelines for the Application of Pesticides for Mosquito and Fly Control in New Jersey", conditions set forth in permits for mosquito control as required by the Department of Environmental Protection and specifications detailed in "Special Local Needs" (24-c) Labels for Pesticides. Using Agencies should also note that the use of "Restricted Use Pesticides," requires the possession of a valid "Certified Applicators License", as issued by the Department of Environmental Protection. Products whose labels have no mention of usage for "Aerial Application" must submit the appropriate supplemental labels with the bid proposal.

#### 3.4 PACKAGING

- 3.4.1 All dry materials are to be delivered in vapor proof sealed packages.
- 3.4.2 All liquid materials are to be delivered in no-deposit containers of the size specified on the bid pricing sheet.
- 3.4.3 ALL CONTAINERS ARE TO BEAR AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AT TIME OF DELIVERY:

NAME OF CONTENTS

LOT NUMBER

PALLET NUMBER

NUMBER OF BAGS ON PALLET

NAME AND ADDRESS OF SUPPLIER.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF RECEIVING AGENCY

AGENCY PURCHASE ORDER NUMBER

#### 3.5 DELIVERY

- 3.5.1 The major Using Agency of this contract will be the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination, N.J. Department of Environmental Protection. All shipments for this Using Agency are to be delivered to Downstown Aero Crop Service, Harding Highway, Route 40, Vineland, N.J. 08360, or other designated facility.
- 3.5.2 Deliveries to other Using Agencies and Cooperative Purchasing Participants are to be made to the location(s) specified on the Using Agency Purchase Order. All deliveries are to be made during the hours and days designated by the ordering agency.
- 3.5.3 The contractor agrees to make deliveries within five (5) days from receipt of a purchase order from the Using Agency, or a telephoned order from the Administrator of the Office of Mosquito Control Coordination, DEP, Robert Kent (609) 292-3649, or his authorized representative.
- 3.5.4 The contractor is required to protect all materials and to deliver them to the specified delivery location in an undamaged condition. The State may reject any item, which is damaged or is otherwise unacceptable.

#### 3.6 BILLING

- 3.6.1 Materials ordered by the N.J. Office of Mosquito Control Coordination are to be billed on New Jersey State Invoice FORM AR 50/54 and sent to the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Mosquito Control Coordination, 501 E. STATE STREET, P.O. BOX 400, Trenton, N.J. 08625-0400.
- 3.6.2 Materials ordered by other Using Agencies are to be billed on appropriate invoice forms to the "BILL TO" address given on the Using Agency Purchase Order.

#### 3.7 SALES SERVICE

- 3.7.1 The bidder(s) is to supply the name and telephone number of an individual who can be contacted at all times for ordering materials or help in solving problems connected with its use, by completing Section 3.8 of this RFP. If no individual is listed, the name of the person signing the bid proposal will be used for contact purpose.
- 3.7.2 Sales and services assistance must be available to all Using Agencies at no extra costs.

#### 3.8 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 3.8.1 If any material is available in containers of a size other than those listed on the price sheets in this RFP, the bidder(s) are requested to enter the container size and price per gallon or pound.
- 3.8.2 Sales and service contact person:

Name:		 	
Telephone:_		 	
Fax:			

3.8.3 The bidders offering alternate materials will only be considered if documentation submitted with its bid proposal, proves conclusively that the product offered is equal to or better than the materials specified in this RFP. The acceptance of such an alternate will be based on a technical evaluation by the D.E.P. Office of Mosquito Control Coordination. The State reserves the right to test these products prior to approval.

# 4.0 PROPOSAL PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

## 4.1 GENERAL

The bidder must follow instructions contained in this RFP and on the bid cover sheet in preparing and submitting its bid proposal. The bidder is advised to thoroughly read and follow all instructions.

The first page (face) of this RFP shall be signed by an authorized representative of the bidder. However, if the bidder is a limited partnership, the first page (face) of this RFP must be signed by a general partner. If the bidder is a joint venture, the first page (face) of this RFP must be signed by a principal of each party to the joint venture. Failure to comply will result in rejection of the bid proposal.

Pricing and information sheets must be completed in their entirety. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in rejection of the bid proposal.

No changes or white outs will be permitted on the specification sheets, unless each change is initialed and dated in ink by the bidder.

# 4.2 PROPOSAL DELIVERY AND IDENTIFICATION

In order to be considered, a bid proposal must arrive at the Purchase Bureau in accordance with the instructions on the RFP cover sheet. Bidders are cautioned to allow adequate delivery time to ensure timely delivery of bid proposals. State regulation mandates that late bid proposals are ineligible for consideration. THE EXTERIOR OF ALL BID PROPOSAL PACKAGES MUST BE LABELED WITH THE BID IDENTIFICATION NUMBER, FINAL BID OPENING DATE AND THE BUYER'S NAME. (See RFP cover sheet).

# 4.3 NUMBER OF BID PROPOSAL COPIES

Each bidder must submit **one (1) complete ORIGINAL bid proposal**, clearly marked as the "ORIGINAL" bid proposal. Each bidder should submit **two (2) full, complete and exact copies** of the original. The copies requested are necessary in the evaluation of the bid proposal. Bidders failing to provide the requested number of copies will be charged the cost incurred by the State in producing the requested number of copies. It is suggested that the bidder make and retain a copy of its bid proposal.

# 4.4 PROPOSAL CONTENT

The bid proposal should be submitted as follows:

Forms (Section 4.4.1)

CONTENTS	RFP SECTION REFERENCE	COMMENTS
	Cover sheet	Completed and signed cover sheet (Page 3 of this RFP)
	<u>4.4.1.1</u>	Ownership Disclosure Form (Attachment 1)
	4.4.2.8	Disclosure of Investigations and Actions Involving Bidder (Attachment 1A)
Forms	<u>4.4.1.2</u>	MacBride Principles Certification (Attachment 2)
	<u>4.4.1.3</u>	Affirmative Action Employee Information Report or New Jersey Affirmative Action Certificate (Attachment 3)
	Appendix 1 - 1.1 of the Standard Terms  & Conditions	Business Registration from Division of Revenue

## **4.4.1 FORMS**

## 4.4.1.1 OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE FORM

In the event the bidder is a corporation or partnership, the bidder must complete the attached Ownership Disclosure Form. A completed Ownership Disclosure Form must be received prior to or accompany the bid proposal. Failure to do so will preclude the award of a contract.

The Ownership Disclosure Form is attached as Attachment 1 to this RFP.

#### 4.4.1.2 MACBRIDE PRINCIPLES CERTIFICATION

The bidder must complete the attached MacBride Principles Certification evidencing compliance with the MacBride Principles. Failure to do so may result in the award of the contract to another vendor.

The MacBride Principles Certification Form is attached as Attachment 2 to this RFP

## 4.4.1.3 AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The bidder must complete the attached Affirmative Action Employee Information Report, or, in the alternative, supply either a New Jersey Affirmative Action Certificate or evidence that the bidder is operating under a Federally approved or sanctioned affirmative action program. The requirement is a precondition to entering into a State contract.

The Affirmative Action Forms are attached as Attachment 3 to this RFP.

# 4.4.1.4 BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE FROM THE DIVISION OF REVENUE

FAILURE TO SUBMIT A COPY OF THE BIDDER'S BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE (OR INTERIM REGISTRATION) FROM THE DIVISION OF REVENUE WITH THE BID PROPOSAL MAY BE CAUSE FOR REJECTION OF THE BID PROPOSAL.

The bidder may go to <a href="www.nj.gov/njbgs">www.nj.gov/njbgs</a> to register with the Division of Revenue or to obtain a copy of an existing Business Registration Certificate.

Refer to Appendix 1, Section 1.1. of the Standard Terms and Conditions and Section 5.3 of this RFP for additional information concerning this requirement.

#### 4.4.1.5 EXECUTIVE ORDER 134

Refer to Section 5.18 of this RFP for more details concerning this requirement.

## 4.4.1.6 SET-ASIDE CONTRACTS

Reserved

#### 4.4.1.7 EXECUTIVE ORDER 129

Reserved

# 4.4.1.8 BID BOND

Reserved

## 4.4.2 SUBMITTALS

The following is a list of mandatory requirements, unless otherwise noted, for each pesticide bid which is to accompany the bid proposal:

- A COPY OF THE MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET (MSDS)
- THE N.J.D.E.P. REGISTRATION FORM
- 2 COPIES OF THE FEDERAL EPA APPROVED PRODUCT LABELS
- REGISTRATION NUMBERS (IF REQUIRED) (SEE SECTION 3.3.3)
- A PRODUCT WHOSE LABELS HAVE NO MENTION OF USAGE FOR "AERIAL APPLICATION" MUST SUBMIT THE APPROPRIATE SUPPLEMENTAL LABELS WITH THE BID PROPOSAL.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH EITHER OF THESE PROVISIONS WILL RESULT IN THE REJECTION OF YOUR BID PROPOSAL FOR THAT ITEM ONLY.

FAILURE TO SUBMIT CURRENT VALID REGISTRATION NUMBERS WILL BE CAUSE FOR REJECTION OF YOUR BID PROPOSAL FOR THOSE ITEMS REQUIRING REGISTRATION.

# 4.4.2.1 DISCLOSURE OF PRODUCT COMPOSITION

The bidder must furnish material safety data sheets (MSDS) or manufacturers' equivalent information sheets on the products and/or chemicals used in performing the services specified in this RFP with the bidder's bid proposal. These sheets must list complete chemical ingredients including the percentage composition of each ingredient in the mixture down to 0.1%, and the chemical abstract services numbers for those substances listing any potentially hazardous products, which may produce gas during or following application. Failure to supply this information will result in rejection of the bid proposal for that particular product(s).

# 4.4.2.2 BIDDER DATA SHEET

The bidder must provide all of the information requested. The bidder may provide its response on a separate attachment but should clearly note here that it is doing so:

1. Name of individual that may be contacted at all times if information, service, or problem solving is required by the Using Agency. This service shall be available at no additional charge.

# (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

Name:
Address:
City, State:
Telephone Number:Fax Number:
Years of this individual's experience in servicing similar accounts:
Identify the similar accounts this individual has serviced:

# 4.4.2.3 REFERENCE DATA SHEETS - SATISFACTORY CUSTOMER SERVICE

The bidder must provide all of the information requested. The bidder may provide its response on a separate attachment but should clearly state here that it is doing so:

Supply the name(s) of present customers you are servicing for contracts of a similar size and scope to those required by this RFP.

	1.	Name of customer provided as reference:	
		Name of individual State may contact to verify	y reference:
		1 <sup>st</sup> individual:	Phone # of contact person:
		<sup>2nd</sup> individual:	Phone # of contact person:
	ı	Length of time services provided by the bidde	er to this customer:
	2.	Name of customer provided as reference:	
		1 <sup>st</sup> individual:	Phone # of contact person:
		<sup>2nd</sup> individual:	Phone # of contact person:
		Length of time services provided by the bidde	er to this customer:
	3.	Name of customer provided as reference	
		1 <sup>st</sup> individual:	Phone # of contact person:
		<sup>2nd</sup> individual:	_ Phone # of contact person:
		Length of time services provided by the bidde	er to this customer:
4.4.2.4	MA	ANDATORY CONTRACTOR DATA SHEET -	TERMINATED CONTRACTS
		e bidder must provide all of the information re parate attachment but should clearly state he	equested. The bidder may provide its response on a re that it is doing so:
	wit		peen terminated from during the last three years along ed. List name of contact person and phone number of
	1.	Name of Firm:	
		Contact Person:	
		Phone Number:	<del></del>
		Reason for Termination:	
	-		
	-		
	-		
	2	Name of Firm:	

	Contact Person:
	Phone Number:
	Reason for Termination:
3.	Name of Firm:
	Contact Person:
	Phone Number:
	Reason for Termination:

## 4.4.2.5 SAMPLES/SAMPLE TESTING

Products offered must be in accordance with the brand/model(s) specified herein, or "approved equal" for all price lines of this RFP. A bidder offering an "approved equal" may, at the State's option, be required to submit a bid sample for evaluation and testing. Bidders must, within 10 working days following a request from the State, submit a bid sample to New Jersey Department of the Treasury, Distribution and Support Services, Attn. Kevin Ryan, 1620 Stuyvesant Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08625. A sample submitted will not be returned. The New Jersey Department of the Treasury will test the sample to ensure that the sample conforms to the specifications and requirements. The testing results of the State are final.

## 4.4.2.6 FINANCIAL CAPABILITY OF THE BIDDER

If requested, the bidder shall provide proof of its financial capacity and capabilities to undertake and successfully complete the contract. To satisfy this requirement, the bidder shall submit a certified financial statement, including applicable notes, reflecting the bidder's assets, liabilities, net worth, revenues, expense, profit or loss and cash flow for the most recent calendar year or the bidder's most recent fiscal year; or if a certified financial statement is not available, then either a reviewed or compiled statement from an independent accountant setting forth the same information required for the certified financial statement. In addition, the bidder must submit a bank reference.

# 4.4.2.7 SUBCONTRACTOR(S)

A. <u>All bidders</u> must complete the **Notice of Intent to Subcontract Form** whether or not they intend to utilize subcontractors in connection with the work set forth in this RFP. If the bidder intends to utilize subcontractor(s), then the **Subcontractor Utilization Plan** must also be submitted with the bid.

N.J.A.C. 17:13-4 and Executive Order 71 mandate that if the bidder proposes to utilize a subcontractor, the bidder must make a good faith effort to meet the set-aside subcontracting targets of awarding a total of twenty-five percent (25%) of the value of the contract to New Jersey-based, New Jersey Commerce and Economic Growth Commission registered small businesses, with a minimum of five (5) percent awarded to each of the three categories set forth below, and the balance of ten (10) percent spread across the three annual gross revenue categories: Category I – \$1 to \$500,000; Category II - \$5,000,001 to \$5,000,000; Category III - \$5,000,000.

- B. Should the bidder choose to use subcontractors and fail to meet the Small Business Subcontracting targets set forth above, the bidder must submit documentation demonstrating its good faith effort to meet the targets with its bid proposal or within seven (7) business days upon request.
- C. Should the bidder propose to utilize a subcontractor(s) to fulfill any of its obligations, the bidder shall be responsible for the subcontractor's(s): (a) performance; (b) compliance with all of the terms and conditions of the contract; and (c) compliance with the requirements of all applicable laws.
- D. The bidder must provide a detailed description of services to be provided by each subcontractor, referencing the applicable Section or Subsection of this RFP.
- E. The bidder should provide detailed resumes for each subcontractor's management, supervisory and other key personnel that demonstrate knowledge, ability and experience relevant to that part of the work which the subcontractor is designated to perform.
- F. The bidder should provide documented experience to demonstrate that each subcontractor has successfully performed work on contracts of a similar size and scope to the work that the subcontractor is designated to perform in the bidder's proposal.

# 4.4.2.8 DISCLOSURE OF INVESTIGATIONS/ACTIONS INVOLVING BIDDER

The bidder shall provide a detailed description of any investigation, litigation, including administrative complaints or other administrative proceedings, involving any public sector clients during the past five years including the nature and status of the investigation, and, for any litigation, the caption of the action, a brief description of the action, the date of inception, current status, and, if applicable, disposition. The bidder shall use the chart in <a href="Attachment 1.4">Attachment 1.4</a>, Disclosure of Investigations and Actions Involving Bidder, located after the <a href="Attachment 1.4">Attachment 1.4</a>, Ownership Disclosure Form.

## 4.4.3 COST PROPOSAL

The bidder must submit its pricing using the State supplied price sheet(s) attached to this RFP. Failure to submit all information required will result in the bid being considered non-responsive. Each bidder is required to hold its prices firm through issuance of contract.

#### 4.4.4 PRICE SHEETING INSTRUCTION

- 4.4.4.1 The bidder is to provide a unit price in the "Unit Price" column.
- 4.4.4.2 The bidder is to provide all other information requested on the price line item.

## 5.0 SPECIAL CONTRACTUAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

## **5.1 STATE CONTRACT MANAGER**

Reserved

#### 5.2 PRECEDENCE OF SPECIAL CONTRACTUAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The contract awarded as a result of this RFP shall consist of this RFP, addendum to this RFP, the contractor's bid proposal and the Division's Notice of Award.

Unless specifically stated within this RFP, the Special Contractual Terms and Conditions of the RFP take precedence over the Standard Terms and Conditions <u>Appendix 1</u> of the RFP.

In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this RFP, including the Special Contractual Terms and Conditions and the Standard Terms and Conditions, and any Addendum to this RFP, the Addendum shall govern.

In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this RFP, including any Addendum to this RFP, and the bidder's bid proposal, the RFP and/or the Addendum shall govern.

#### **5.3 BUSINESS REGISTRATION**

The following shall supplement the Standard Terms and Conditions pertaining to Business Registration set forth in, Appendix 1, Section 1.1.

"Affiliate" means any entity that (1) directly, indirectly, or constructively controls another entity, (2) is directly, indirectly, or constructively controlled by another entity, or (3) is subject to the control of a common entity. An entity controls another entity if it owns, directly or individually, more than 50% of the ownership in that entity.

"Business organization" means an individual, partnership, association, joint stock company, trust, corporation, or other legal business entity or successor thereof;

"Business registration" means a business registration certificate issued by the Department of the Treasury or such other form or verification that a contractor or subcontractor is registered with the Department of Treasury;

"Contractor" means a business organization that seeks to enter, or has entered into, a contract to provide goods or services with a contracting agency;

"Contracting agency" means the principal departments in the Executive Branch of the State Government, and any division, board, bureau, office, commission or other instrumentality within or created by such department, or any independent State authority, commission, instrumentality or agency, or any State college or university, any county college, or any local unit; with respect to this Contract, the contracting agency shall mean the Division;

"Subcontractor" means any business organization that is not a contractor that knowingly provides goods or performs services for a contractor or another subcontractor in the fulfillment of a contract.

A bidder shall submit a copy of its business registration at the time of submission of its bid proposal in response to this RFP.

A subcontractor shall provide a copy of its business registration to any contractor who shall forward it to the contracting agency. No contract with a subcontractor shall be entered into by any contractor unless the subcontractor first provides proof of valid business registrations.

The contractor shall provide written notice to all subcontractors that they are required to submit a copy of their business registration to the contractor. The contractor shall maintain a list of the names of any subcontractors and their current addresses, updated as necessary during the course of the contract performance. The contractor shall submit to the contracting agency a copy of the list of subcontractors, updated as necessary during the course of performance of the contract. The contractor shall submit a complete and accurate list of the subcontractors to the contracting agency before a request for final payment is made to the using agency.

The contractor and any subcontractor providing goods or performing services under the contract, and each of their affiliates, shall, during the term of the contract, collect and remit to the Director of the Division of Taxation in the Department of the Treasury the use tax due pursuant to the "Sales and Use Tax Act, P.L. 1966, c. 30 (N.J.S.A. 54:32B-1 et seq.) on all their sales of tangible personal property delivered into the State.

This paragraph shall apply to all contracts awarded on and after September 1, 2004

#### 5.4 CONTRACT TERM AND EXTENSION OPTION

The term of the contract shall be for a period of **two (2) years.** The anticipated "Contract Effective Date" is provided on the cover sheet of this RFP. If delays in the procurement process result in a change to the anticipated Contract Effective Date, the bidder agrees to accept a contract for the full term of the contract. The contract may be extended for all or part of **two (2)** one-year periods, by the mutual written consent of the contractor and the Director. **Purchase orders may be placed against the contract up to and including the end of business on the last day of the contract, for delivery no more than 45 days after contract expiration.** 

# 5.5 CONTRACT TRANSITION

In the event that a new contract has not been awarded prior to the contract expiration date, as may be extended herein, it shall be incumbent upon the contractor to continue the contract under the same terms and conditions until a new contract can be completely operational. At no time shall this transition period extend more than **ninety (90)** days beyond the expiration date of the contract.

## 5.6 AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

The State's obligation to pay the contractor is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds from which payment for contract purposes is made. No legal liability on the part of the State for payment of any money shall arise unless funds are made available each fiscal year to the Using Agency by the Legislature.

## 5.7 CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Any changes or modifications to the terms of the contract shall only be valid when they have been reduced to writing and signed by the contractor and the Director.

## 5.8 PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS AND AMENDMENTS

- 5.8.1 The contractor shall comply with procedural instructions that may be issued from time to time by the Director.
- 5.8.2 During the period of the contract, no contractual changes are permitted, unless approved in writing by the Director.
- 5.8.3 The State reserves the right to separately procure individual requirements that are the subject of the contract during the contract term, when deemed by the Director to be in the State's best interest.

## 5.9 ITEMS ORDERED AND DELIVERED

The **Using Agencies are** authorized to order and **the contractors are** authorized to ship only those items covered by the contracts resulting from this RFP. If a review of orders placed by the Using Agency [Agencies] reveals [reveal] that material other than that covered by the contract has been ordered and delivered, such delivery shall be a violation of the terms of the contract and may be considered by the Director in the termination of the contract or in the award of any subsequent contract. The Director may take such steps as are necessary to have the items returned by the Agency, regardless of the time between the date of delivery and discovery of the violation. In such event, the contractor shall reimburse the State the full purchase price.

The contract involves items which are necessary for the continuation of ongoing critical State services. Any delay in delivery of these items would disrupt State services and would force the State to immediately seek alternative sources of supply on an emergency basis. Timely delivery is critical to meeting the State's ongoing needs.

## 5.10 DISCLOSURE OF PRODUCT COMPOSITION

The contractor must furnish MSDS or manufacturer's equivalent information sheets on the products and/or chemicals used in performing the services specified in the contract to the Using Agency. These sheets must list complete chemical ingredients including the percentage composition of each ingredient in the mixture down to 0.1%, and the chemical abstract services numbers for those substances listing any potentially hazardous products, which may produce gas during or following application.

#### 5.11 REMEDIES FOR NON-PERFORMANCE

In the event that the contractor fails to comply with any material contract requirements, the Director may take steps to terminate the contract in accordance with the State administrative code. In this event, the Director may authorize the delivery of contract items by any available means, with the difference between the price paid and the defaulting contractor's price either being deducted from any monies due the defaulting contractor or being an obligation owed the State by the defaulting contractor.

## 5.12 MANUFACTURING/PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS

- 5.12.1 All products must conform in every respect to the standards and regulations established by Federal and New Jersey State laws.
- 5.12.2 All products shall be manufactured and packaged under modern sanitary conditions in accordance with good commercial practice.
- 5.12.3 All products are to be packaged in sizes as specified in this RFP and shall be packaged in such a manner as to insure delivery in first class condition and properly marked for identification. All shipments must be comprised of original cartons associated with the commercial industry represented by the actual product contained within each carton. Deliveries containing re-used, re-labeled, re-worked or alternate cartons are subject to rejection by the Using Agency at the contractor's expense.

## 5.13 PERFORMANCE BOND

Reserved

#### 5.14 CLAIMS

All claims asserted against the State by the contractor shall be subject to the New Jersey Tort Claims Act, N.J.S.A. 59:1-1.1, et seq., and/or the New Jersey Contractual Liability Act, N.J.S.A. 59:13-1, et seq.

#### 5.15 CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The contractor shall have sole responsibility for the complete effort specified in the contract. Payment will be made only to the contractor. The contractor shall have sole responsibility for all payments due any subcontractor.

The contractor is responsible for the professional quality, technical accuracy and timely completion and submission of all deliverables, services or commodities required to be provided under the contract. The contractor shall, without additional compensation, correct or revise any errors, omissions, or other deficiencies in its deliverables and other services. The approval of deliverables furnished under this contract shall not in any way relieve the contractor of responsibility for the technical adequacy of its work. The review, approval, acceptance or payment for any of the services shall not be construed as a waiver of any rights that the State may have arising out of the contractor's performance of this contract.

# 5.16 SUBSTITUTION OR ADDITION OF SUBCONTRACTOR(S)

This Subsection serves to supplement but not to supersede Section 3.11 of the Standard Terms and Conditions of this RFP.

If it becomes necessary for the contractor to substitute a subcontractor, add a subcontractor or substitute its own staff for a subcontractor, the contractor will identify the proposed new subcontractor or staff member(s) and the work to be performed. The contractor must provide detailed justification documenting the necessity for the substitution or addition.

The contractor must provide detailed resumes of its proposed replacement staff or of the proposed subcontractor's management, supervisory and other key personnel that demonstrate knowledge, ability and experience relevant to that part of the work which the subcontractor is to undertake.

The qualifications and experience of the replacement(s) must equal or exceed those of similar personnel proposed by the contractor in its bid proposal.

The contractor shall forward a written request to substitute or add a subcontractor or to substitute its own staff for a subcontractor to the State Contract Manager for consideration. If the State Contract Manager approves the request, the State Contract Manager will forward the request to the Director for final approval.

No substituted or additional subcontractors are authorized to begin work until the contractor has received written approval from the Director.

#### 5.17 CONTRACT ACTIVITY REPORT

In conjunction with the standard record keeping requirements of this contract, as listed in paragraph 3.19 of this RFP's standard terms and conditions, the contractor must provide, on a **Quarterly** basis, to the Purchase Bureau buyer assigned, a record of all purchases made under its contract. This information must be provided in a tabular format such that an analysis can be made to determine the following:

-Contractor's total sales volume under contract, subtotaled by product.

Submission of purchase orders, confirmations, and/or invoices do not fulfill this contract requirement.

Contractors are encouraged to submit the required information in electronic spreadsheet format. The Purchase Bureau uses Microsoft Excel.

Failure to submit these mandated reports will be a factor in future award decisions.

#### 5.18 REQUIREMENTS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 134

In order to safeguard the integrity of State government procurement by imposing restrictions to insulate the award of State contracts from political contributions that pose the risk of improper influence, purchase of access, or the appearance thereof, Executive Order 134 was signed on September 22, 2004 ("EO 134"). Pursuant to the requirements of EO 134, the terms and conditions set forth in this section are material terms of any contract resulting from this RFP:

## 5.18.1 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this section, the following shall be defined as follows:

- a) Contribution means a contribution reportable as a recipient under "The New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act." P.L. 1973, c. 83 (C.19:44A-1 et seq.), and implementing regulations set forth at N.J.A.C. 19:25-7 and N.J.A.C. 19:25-10.1 et seq. Through December 31, 2004, contributions in excess of \$400 during a reporting period were deemed "reportable" under these laws. As of January 1, 2005, that threshold was reduced to contributions in excess of \$300.
- b) Business Entity means any natural or legal person, business corporation, professional services corporation, limited liability company, partnership, limited partnership, business trust, association or any other legal commercial entity organized under the laws of New Jersey or any other state or foreign jurisdiction. It also includes (i)all principals who own or control more than 10 percent of the profits or assets of a business entity or 10 percent of the stock in the case of a business entity that is a corporation for profit, as appropriate; (ii)any subsidiaries directly or indirectly controlled by the business entity; (iii)any political organization organized under 26 U.S.C.A. 527 that is directly or indirectly controlled by the business entity, other than a candidate committee, election fund, or political party committee; and (iv)if a business entity is a natural person, that person's spouse or child, residing in the same household.

## 5.18.2 BREACH OF TERMS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 134

It shall be a breach of the terms of the contract for the Business Entity to (i)make or solicit a contribution in violation of this Order, (ii)knowingly conceal or misrepresent a contribution given or received; (iii)make or solicit contributions through intermediaries for the purpose of concealing or misrepresenting the source of the contribution; (iv)make or solicit any contribution on the condition or with the agreement that it will be contributed to a campaign committee or any candidate of holder of the public office of Governor, or to any State or county party committee; (v)engage or employ a lobbyist or consultant with the intent or understanding that such lobbyist or consultant would make or solicit any contribution, which if made or solicited by the business entity itself, would subject that entity to the restrictions of EO 134; (vi)fund contributions made by third parties, including consultants, attorneys, family members, and employees; (vii)engage in any exchange of contributions to circumvent the intent of EO 134; or (viii)directly or indirectly through or by any other person or means, do any act which would subject that entity to the restrictions of EO 134.

## 5.18.3 CERTIFICATION AND DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

- a) The State shall not enter into a contract to procure from any Business Entity services or any material, supplies or equipment, or to acquire, sell or lease any land or building, where the value of the transaction exceeds \$17,500, if that Business Entity has solicited or made any contribution of money, or pledge of contribution, including in-kind contributions to a candidate committee and/or election fund of any candidate for or holder of the public office of Governor, or to any State or county political party committee during certain specified time periods
- b) Prior to awarding any contract or agreement to any Business Entity, the Business Entity proposed as the intended awardee of the contract shall submit the Certification and Disclosure form, certifying that no contributions prohibited by Executive Order 134 have been made by the Business Entity and reporting all contributions the Business Entity made during the preceding four years to any political organization organized under 26 U.S.C.527 of the Internal Revenue Code that also meets the definition of a

"continuing political committee" within the mean of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-3(n) and N.J.A.C. 19:25-1.7. The required form and instructions, available for review on the Purchase Bureau website at <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms.htm#eo134">http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms.htm#eo134</a>, shall be provided to the intended awardee for completion and submission to the Purchase Bureau with the Notice of Intent to Award. Upon receipt of a Notice of Intent to Award a Contract, the intended awardee shall submit to the Division, in care of the Purchase Bureau Buyer, the Certification and Disclosure(s) within five (5) business days of the State's request. Failure to submit the required forms will preclude award of a contract under this RFP, as well as future contract opportunities.

c) Further, the Contractor is required, on a continuing basis, to report any contributions it makes during the term of the contract, and any extension(s) thereof, at the time any such contribution is made. The required form and instructions, available for review on the Purchase Bureau website at <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms.htm#eo134">http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/forms.htm#eo134</a>, shall be provided to the intended awardee with the Notice of Intent to Award.

## 5.18.4 STATE TREASURER REVIEW

The State Treasurer or his designee shall review the Disclosures submitted pursuant to this section, as well as any other pertinent information concerning the contributions or reports thereof by the intended awardee, prior to award, or during the term of the contract, by the contractor. If the State Treasurer determines that any contribution or action by the contractor constitutes a breach of contract that poses a conflict of interest in the awarding of the contract under this solicitation, the State Treasurer shall disqualify the Business Entity from award of such contract.

#### 5.19 REQUIREMENTS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 129

Reserved

# 6.0 PROPOSAL EVALUATION/CONTRACT AWARD

#### 6.1 CONTRACT EVALUATION

For a product bid that has been determined to be in compliance with this RFP, the contract shall be awarded on the basis of the following criteria, not necessarily listed in the order of importance:

- 6.1.1 Price
- 6.1.2 Experience of the bidder
- 6.1.3 The bidder's past performance under similar contracts, including if applicable, the Division's vendor performance database.

## 6.2 ORAL PRESENTATION AND/OR CLARIFICATION OF BID PROPOSAL

After the submission of bid proposals, unless requested by the State, contact with the State is limited to status inquiries only and such inquiries are only to be directed to the buyer. Any further contact or information about the proposal to the buyer or any other State official connected with the solicitation will be considered an impermissible supplementation of the bidder's bid proposal.

A bidder may be required to give an oral presentation to the Evaluation Committee concerning its bid proposal. The Evaluation Committee may also require a bidder to submit written responses to questions regarding its bid proposal.

The purpose of such communication with a bidder, either through an oral presentation or a letter of clarification, is to provide an opportunity for the bidder to clarify or elaborate on its bid proposal. Original bid proposals submitted, however, cannot be supplemented, changed, or corrected in any way. No comments regarding other bid proposals are permitted. Bidders may not attend presentations made by their competitors.

It is within the Evaluation Committee's discretion whether to require a bidder to give an oral presentation or require a bidder to submit written responses to questions regarding its bid proposal. Action by the Evaluation Committee in this regard should not be construed to imply acceptance or rejection of a bid proposal. The Purchase Bureau buyer will be the sole point of contact regarding any request for an oral presentation or clarification.

#### 6.3 BID DISCREPANCIES

In evaluating bids, discrepancies between words and figures will be resolved in favor of words. Discrepancies between unit prices and totals of unit prices will be resolved in favor of unit prices. Discrepancies in the multiplication of units of work and unit prices will be resolved in favor of the unit prices. Discrepancies between the indicated total of multiplied unit prices and units of work and the actual total will be resolved in favor of the actual total. Discrepancies between the indicated sum of any column of figures and the correct sum thereof will be resolved in favor of the corrected sum of the column of figures.

# 6.4 <u>NEGOTIATION AND BEST AND FINAL OFFER (BAFO)</u>

Following the opening of bid proposals, the State reserves the right, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-12(f), to negotiate: the technical services offered, the terms and conditions and/or the price of a proposed contract award with any bidder. In addition, the State reserves the right to seek a Best and Final Offer (BAFO) from one or more bidders. In response to the State's request to negotiate, bidders must continue to satisfy all mandatory RFP requirements but may improve upon their original technical proposal in any revised technical proposal. However, any revised technical proposal that does not continue to satisfy all mandatory requirements will be rejected as non-responsive and the original technical proposal will be used for any further evaluation purposes, in accordance with the following procedure.

The Evaluation Committee will conduct an initial review and determine whether and with which bidder(s) it will negotiate, and will communicate its request to each such bidder. In response, the bidder will submit any required revisions to its proposal.

In response to the State's request for a BAFO, bidders may submit a revised price proposal that is equal to or lower in price than their original submission, but must continue to satisfy all mandatory requirements. Any revised price proposal that is higher in price than the original will be rejected as non-responsive and the original bid will be used for any further evaluation purposes.

After receipt of the results of the negotiation and/or the BAFO(s), the Evaluation Committee will complete its evaluation and recommend to the Director for award that responsible bidder(s) whose bid proposal, confirming to this RFP, is most advantageous to the State, price and other factors considered.

All contacts, records of initial evaluations, any correspondence with bidders related to any request for negotiation or BAFO, any revised technical and/or price proposals, the Evaluation Committee Report and the Award Recommendation, will remain confidential until a Notice of Intent to Award a contract is issued.

## 6.5 CONTRACT AWARD

Line item awards shall be made with reasonable promptness by written notice to those responsible bidders, whose bid proposals, conforming to this RFP, are most advantageous to the State, price, and other factors considered. Any or all bid proposals may be rejected when the State Treasurer or the Director determines that it is in the public interest so to do.